

## Lesson 4: Missing the Point?

### Intro: *Shadowlands*

Define marriage.

### Legal status vs. One-flesh Union

**Big Idea:** Marriage is a \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ union created by God between a \_\_\_\_\_ & a \_\_\_\_\_.

Moses speaks parenthetically so we understand that this is not just about them, Adam and Eve, but also about us. This is the pattern, the institution of a state called marriage which is more than a legal status.

<sup>24</sup> Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. <sup>25</sup> And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed. **Genesis 2**

### Marriage Means Leaving

- Marriage involves \_\_\_\_\_. This is the norm, or standard operating procedure.
- The one-flesh union \_\_\_\_\_ all of your other \_\_\_\_\_.
- Moses is talking about changing \_\_\_\_\_ relationships, not just adding another relationship.
- Marriage does not \_\_\_\_\_ those relationships, but it takes \_\_\_\_\_ over all of them.
- There is therefore a sense of \_\_\_\_\_ that accompanies your \_\_\_\_\_.
- There will be both \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ with your family of origin.
- The greater the differences between your \_\_\_\_\_ & socio-economic \_\_\_\_\_, the more difficult it will be to make the \_\_\_\_\_.
- Moses addresses the man, who should generally \_\_\_\_\_ this process.

Does the Bible specify one way, or a preferred way, to identify a spouse?

### Marriage Means Joining

- The man is to cling or cleave to a \_\_\_\_\_ woman.
- The sexual \_\_\_\_\_ is important, particular in light of a culture change.
- If marriage is a \_\_\_\_\_, cultural institution then its definition can change.
- If marriage is a \_\_\_\_\_ institution then we are not free to mess with the definition.

## Marriage: A Practical Theology

- The magistrate may adjust the \_\_\_\_\_ definition and \_\_\_\_\_ of marriage.
- But they cannot change what God has established. Still not a one-flesh union.
- Marriage is a “\_\_\_\_\_” earthly relationship between \_\_\_\_\_ man and \_\_\_\_\_ woman.
- The \_\_\_\_\_ to marriage cannot change the \_\_\_\_\_ of marriage.

### Jesus & Homosexuality & Polygamy

- Claim: Jesus never addressed homosexuality. This means we can affirm homosexuality.
- Jesus often used the word translated “\_\_\_\_\_” or “*sexual immorality*.”
- It is a general term for sex \_\_\_\_\_ of marriage. In Jesus’ context, that includes \_\_\_\_\_.
- In discussing marriage (Mt. 19:7) Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ Genesis 2 explicitly as the \_\_\_\_\_.
- Mt. 5:17, Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ the moral law. He fulfilled it, but didn’t \_\_\_\_\_ the moral law.
- Same sex marriage is a \_\_\_\_\_ of Genesis 2 and Jesus’ affirmation of the Law & the Prophets.
- But not the only one. \_\_\_\_\_ is being floated again. It deviates from one man/one woman.
- While practiced in the OT, we also see as multiplying \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
- The man is to cling to her. He is not to \_\_\_\_\_ her off but stick with her thru \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_.
- It is intended to withstand the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ that unfold over the years.
- Marriage is not simply friendship, but a \_\_\_\_\_ relationship.
- Just as we are to forsake all gods in order to worship the true God. Failure is \_\_\_\_\_.
- When we fail to forsake all others we commit \_\_\_\_\_ which is covenant breaking.
- It is not all good. We discover \_\_\_\_\_, patterns of sin, annoying \_\_\_\_\_ and more.

### Marriage Means Becoming One Flesh

- Marriage is a \_\_\_\_\_ relationship, not just a \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ relationship.
- “*They shall become one flesh.*” It literally is a non-\_\_\_\_\_ union.
- \_\_\_\_\_ union: one person with two natures \_\_\_\_\_ united w/out mixture, confusion etc.
- Like that, a man and woman are forever united though they remain individuals.

## Marriage: A Practical Theology

- It is also similar to our union with Christ. Spiritual union but I'm not Jesus, He's not me.
- Malachi 2 reminds us that the \_\_\_\_\_ forms this union, not simply mouthing some words.
- Assets & liabilities are shared. Finances, emotional issues, sin patterns etc.
- Just as our union with Christ \_\_\_\_\_ all challenges, our marriage \_\_\_\_\_ is to endure.
- Sex is a physical \_\_\_\_\_ of this union. Sexual commitment follows emotional commitment.
- In 1 Cor. 6 we learn that we can form \_\_\_\_\_ unions thru sexual immorality.

### **How the Gospel Matters**

- Christ \_\_\_\_\_ us to leave & cleave. We can't \_\_\_\_\_ our future & circumstances.
- He does \_\_\_\_\_ our future & circumstances. He can help us stay put when we want to run.
- When we are in trouble, we can \_\_\_\_\_ the throne of grace with \_\_\_\_\_ seeking mercy & grace.
- The \_\_\_\_\_ is greater than the \_\_\_\_\_. Jesus maintains our union with Him, and He can maintain our union with one another.

“One flesh they are; and one flesh, so I'd guess, has but one heart, come grief or happiness.”

**Chaucer**